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COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT 1. The Turko-Bulgarian Border Area
2. The 4 and 6 Cavalry Regiments at Yambol
3. Danube DocksDATE OF INFO. PLACE ACQUIRED

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Silistra

1. Silistra, in the Dobrudzha, is the district center of the province immediately east of Ruse province. The dock at Silistra is the most easterly of the Bulgarian docks on the Danube. To the west, in order, are docks at Popina, Tutra-kan, and Ruse.
2. The pier at Silistra is in line with the exact center of the city and extends like a bridge from the shore into the river. The pier is approximately 15 meters long and 6 meters wide; the forward portion reserved for ships is completely exposed while the sides are partially protected.
3. Horse carts and phaetons are used for transportation within the city. Bus lines connect with Dobrich, Varna, and Tutra-kan - Ruse.
4. The 31 Infantry Regiment and 10 Cavalry Regiment are stationed at Silistra.

Cavalry Regiments at Yambol

5. The 4 Cavalry Regiment was quartered in barracks in the eastern part of Yambol.
6. In October 1949, 6 Cavalry Regiment was composed of three squadrons and an unspecified number of machine gun squadrons. The total strength of the regi-ment was approximately 300 men and 300 horses. 6 Cavalry Regiment was to be disbanded. 150 others of the 1929 class were trans-ferred to the border training battalion in Zlatograd (N4123 E2504). 50X1-HUM

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7. The battalion at Zlatograd had a total strength of approximately 400 men, under the command of Major Gotsev and his assistant, First Lieutenant Iliyev. The battalion was divided into four companies, each commanded by a lieutenant, which were all alike in strength and composition. Each company was composed of three platoons; each platoon had three squads of 11 soldiers and a squad commander. Each soldier was armed with a Soviet infantry rifle. Platoons had two light machine guns which everyone learned to use. The squad commanders were equipped with Soviet Schmeissers. There were no heavy machine guns.

Border Guard


8. After training at Zlatograd, [] 80 [] were assigned to the Tumba podelenie of the Pakiya Border Guard Uchastuk. The Uchastuk is composed of five border zastavas: 50X1-HUM
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- a. Unit I, Rozas: near Momina Tsarkva (N4209 E2701);
 - b. Unit II, Kokiche: on the ridges at Gorna Yabulkovo (N4207 E2706);
 - c. Unit III, Dip: in a clearing approximately 1,500 meters from the border, between the villages of Gorna Yabulkovo and Belevren (N4206 E2710);
 - d. Unit IV, Breza: on the ridges at Belevren; and
 - e. Unit V, Mak: in an unknown location.
9. Unit III, the Dip unit, is composed of 22 men: 11 from the class of 1928 and 11 from the class of 1929. The 11 from the class of 1927 were demobilized on 31 March 1950, approximately 10 days after the class of 1929 arrived at the unit.
10. Unit III was equipped with the following:
- a. 3 light machine guns;
 - b. 8 Schmeissers;
 - c. 11 Vintovka infantry rifles;
 - d. A telescope rifle which no one could operate;
 - e. 23 attack grenades;
 - f. 23 defense grenades; and
 - g. 3 binoculars.
11. Patrol groups of two men are on duty at all times. Each pair is made up of one experienced soldier armed with a Schmeisser and one recruit armed with a rifle and two grenades; the pairs serve 4-hour duty twice each 24 hours. Patrolling is done on foot.
12. Communication is maintained between the zastavas of an uchastuk by telephone.


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13. An empty building which was formerly border post No. 18 is located on the border near the Dip headquarters. Border towers are no longer used because the zavastas are stationed farther inland.
 14. The highway from Fakiya stops at Dolno Yabulkovo (N4208 E2706) and from there foot paths continue to the border.¹
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